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LANSING



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## YOUR FOOD ASSISTANCE BENEFIT DATES ARE GOING TO CHANGE

You have received this notice because you have a Food Assistance Program case with Michigan Department of Human Services.

**WHAT:** Starting in January 2011, the Department of Human Services is changing the dates most people will receive their Food Assistance benefits.

**WHY:** This change will help grocery stores offer you more fresh fruits, vegetables, meats and dairy products all month long. It will also help reduce long checkout lines at the beginning of the month.

**HOW:** Your Food Assistance benefits will be issued one day later each month for 1 to 11 months. The change will start in January 2011. The day you get your benefits will still depend on the last digit of your recipient ID number, just like it does now (other assistance program dates will not change.) Not everybody's date will change every month but most will, especially in the first few months. Look at the schedule printed on the tear-off, foldable card on the bottom of this letter. That will show you when you will get your benefits each month. To read the card:

1. Use the same digit (number) you always use to find out when your food benefits will be available.
2. On the top of the card, find the row that starts with that digit (0 to 9). Follow it to the right to see what date you will get your benefits each month.
3. The last column (December 2011) shows the day of the month when you will receive your Food Assistance benefits from then on.

*Note: Numbers in **bold** on the schedule indicate a change in the date your benefits are available.*

**TO HELP YOU REMEMBER:** Please tear off the card at the bottom of this letter so you will know what day you will get your benefits. Keep it in your wallet. The card also has important contact information on it. Keep it with your Bridge card, if you can.

If you lose the card at the bottom of this letter, you can get another copy of the schedule by emailing [FAPAvailabilitydate@Michigan.gov](mailto:FAPAvailabilitydate@Michigan.gov). You can also get a copy at [www.michigan.gov/dhs](http://www.michigan.gov/dhs).

If you do not have enough food to cover this extra day, please call your local food bank. If you don't know that number, visit [www.michigan.gov/helpinghand](http://www.michigan.gov/helpinghand). Click on "Family Services."

DHS is sorry if this causes any problems for you and your family. We believe that shorter lines and fresher food in grocery stores will make the change worth it. Thank you.

FAP Benefit Issuance Dates January 2011 through December 2011 And Ongoing

Last digit of your recipient ID #	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
0	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
1	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
2	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
3	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
4	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
5	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	13	13	13	13	13	13
6	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	15	15	15	15	15
7	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	17	17	17	17
8	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	19	19	19
9	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	21

You can also get information by visiting the MiBridges website at: <https://www.mibridges.michigan.gov/access/>

You can receive an additional copy of this schedule by emailing: [FAPAvailabilitydate@Michigan.gov](mailto:FAPAvailabilitydate@Michigan.gov).

If you have a food emergency due to this change, please call your local food bank. If you don't know that number, please visit: [www.michigan.gov/helpinghand](http://www.michigan.gov/helpinghand). Click on "Family Services".

**The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.**

The Department of Human Services (DHS) will not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, height, weight, marital status, political beliefs or disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. If you need help with reading, writing, hearing, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are invited to make your needs known to a DHS office in your area.